

separate instances where the Obama administration broke this fundamental responsibility.

Yesterday, the House acted on two measures to hold the executive branch accountable and restore balance to the separation of powers. H.R. 4138, the ENFORCE Act, which deals with lawsuits against the executive branch for failure to execute the laws, and H.R. 3973, the Faithful Execution of the Law Act, which requires the Attorney General to report to Congress any time a Federal official implements a policy to refrain from enforcing Federal law.

Mr. Speaker, no matter which party is in the White House, our laws must be faithfully executed. Americans deserve as much.

SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY IN UKRAINE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, just a couple of weeks ago the eyes of the world were looking at the people of Russia, and all of the world gathered together at the international Olympics, athletes of varying backgrounds harmoniously competing in a spirit of cooperation and collaboration. Certainly those of us in the United States watched with great pride our athletes represent our Nation and their own special talent. It is unfortunate today that President Putin has undermined and destroyed all of that goodwill.

I believe it is important that the United States continue to engage with Ukraine, a sovereign nation, and continues to encourage Secretary Kerry, as the President is doing, for diplomatic resolution. A couple of days from now there will be a vote to cede away from Ukraine, a sovereign nation. President Putin has boots on the ground on soil that is not his, and the world must stand up in a manner that collaborates and embraces. No, I am not calling for military action by the United States, collaboration with NATO. But they are people who desire democracy, and we are a democracy and we should be there and stand alongside of them.

COMMEMORATING SKILLS ACT ANNIVERSARY

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday will mark the 1-year anniversary of House passage of H.R. 803, the SKILLS Act. This bill, which I sponsored, would bring much-needed reform and reorganization to our broken Federal workforce development system.

There is bipartisan agreement that the current mishmash of Federal workforce programs is not meeting the needs of America's job seekers. The President called for reforms in his 2012

State of the Union Address. Republicans in the House responded to that call with the SKILLS Act. This bill would streamline 35 ineffective and duplicative programs, including 26 identified as being ineffective in a 2011 GAO report. The SKILLS Act empowers job creators, promotes accountability, and gives workers access to the resources they need to fill jobs that are available now.

I call on our colleagues in the Senate to act on this vital piece of legislation. America needs a workforce development system that works for job seekers, not bureaucrats.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces a correction to an earlier vote tally. On rollcall vote No. 135, the "yeas" were 238 and the "nays" were 181.

□ 1130

SIGN THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE DISCHARGE PETITION

(Mr. HORSFORD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor to congratulate the two Senators from my home State—Senate Majority Leader HARRY REID and Senator DEAN HELLER—for putting together a bipartisan unemployment insurance benefit extension. I am thankful on behalf of the 2 million Americans who are depending on UI benefits that the Senate is expected to act soon.

But here we go again, Mr. Speaker. The pressure is now on the House. I think it is wrong that one person in the House out of 435 can hold hostage a financial lifeline for 2 million Americans, including 26,000 Nevadans.

Every Member of Congress now has a choice to make: sign the discharge petition to bring up unemployment insurance in a vote; or don't and abandon the Americans who desperately need our help.

I have signed, and I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to do the same. Moderate House Republicans can do something before they leave today. Sign the discharge petition. Show your constituents that you stand with them and bring up a vote to extend unemployment insurance benefits.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE

(Mr. DENHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, more than 14 million seniors nationwide depend on Medicare Advantage plans for their health care needs. In two of the counties that I represent in California's Central Valley, over 60,000 seniors are enrolled in Medicare Advantage.

The program is an absolute necessity for them because it limits their out-of-pocket expense, protecting them from the threat of bankruptcy due to a complicated and an ongoing medical condition.

The President's massive government overhaul of our health care system has raided \$300 million from Medicare Advantage plans and created a health care tax that has just started this year. These payment cuts and the new health insurance tax are already being felt with canceled plans, reduced benefits, and increased co-payments.

There are 33,000 seniors in my county—Stanislaus County—making under \$20,000 a year, who are going to be hit with almost \$100 per month. They have a right to know when this tax is going to hit them, what the expense is going to be. Seniors on limited incomes should have the right to know, which is why I authored the Seniors' Right to Know Act.

BIG LAKE

(Mr. GALLEGO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, everyone in Texas knows about the Permian Basin's reputation for oil and gas. Every UT Longhorn or Texas A&M Aggie knows about the Permanent University Fund.

Not everyone knows the critical role that Big Lake played in each of these, so today, my 23 in 1—taking people to the 23rd District in 1 minute—is about Big Lake.

The first well to hit on university lands was the Santa Rita well, which is now enshrined on the UT campus in Austin. Just outside of Big Lake was the site. It was named for the patron saint of the impossible because no one really expected the well to hit.

The population went from 100 people to over 2,000. Today, those wells have produced great, great resources for the University of Texas and A&M over a long period of time.

There was once a lake in Big Lake; it is dry now. It was fed by springs that are no longer there. They are there only when it has had significant rain. Big Lake is a wonderful place to visit. If you ever have the opportunity, please go.

WEST VIRGINIA WOMEN

(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, women have played a significant role in our Nation's history and in my home State of West Virginia. I would like to recognize a few who have had wonderful achievements in art, literature, sports, government, education, and volunteerism.

Anna Johnson Gates was the first female elected to the State legislature